# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA WESTERN DIVISION

.

MATTHEW FARR, : Case No. 5:21-cv-123

Plaintiff,

Judge

V.

THE UNITED STATES OF : COMPLAINT

AMERICA,

:

Defendant.

Now comes Plaintiff, MATTHEW FARR ("Plaintiff"), and for his Complaint against the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, alleges as follows:

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1. This is an action, under 18 U.S.C. § 925(A)(2), seeking an order to compel the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") to approve a firearm transfer to Plaintiff that was wrongly denied, and a declaration that Plaintiff is not federally prohibited from possessing firearms.

#### **PARTIES**

2. Plaintiff is an individual who is a citizen/resident of the State of North Carolina. Plaintiff is domiciled in Wake County.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 3. This Court has jurisdiction over the lawsuit because the action arises under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, 28 U.S.C. § 1343(a)(4), 28 U.S.C. § 1361, and 18 U.S.C. § 925A.
- 4. As the UNITED STATES is the Defendant in this action, this Court also has jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1346(a)(2).
- 5. Venue for this action is properly in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1402(a)(1).

### **STATEMENT OF THE FACTS**

- Plaintiff was born in 1987 in Sarasota, Florida, and presently lives and resides in Raleigh,
   North Carolina.
- 7. Plaintiff is not prohibited under federal law from owning, using, transporting, or possessing firearms.
- 8. Plaintiff is not subject to any firearm restrictions pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 922(g) or (n).
- 9. Plaintiff is not prohibited under state law from owning, using, transporting, or possessing firearms.
- 10. On January 7, 2021, Plaintiff attempted to purchase a firearm from Oak Grove

  Technologies, LLC, ("Oak Grove") a Federal Firearm Licensee, and fully completed the
  required ATF Form 4473.
- 11. Oak Grove performed a background check on Plaintiff through the National Instant Criminal Background Check System ("NICS") which resulted in a "Denial".
- 12. The NICS Transaction Number ("NTN") for the denial was 101T8F47N.
- 13. Plaintiff desires to possess firearms but is in fear of arrest and prosecution.
- 14. Plaintiff is employed by Oak Grove of Raleigh, North Carolina.
- 15. Oak Grove maintains a federal firearms license.
- 16. Oak Grove employees regularly participate in shooting events as a method of professional development and marketing.
- 17. Oak Grove and Plaintiff's colleagues are aware of Plaintiff's NICS denial of a firearm transfer.
- 18. Plaintiff has suffered professional embarrassment due to the NICS denial.

### FIRST CLAIM – 18 U.S.C. § 925A

- 19. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 18 as if the same were fully set forth herein.
- 20. Plaintiff was denied a firearm transfer as the result of a NICS check performed pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922(t).
- 21. Plaintiff is not prohibited from receipt of the firearm as he is not presently subject to a federal firearm disability pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922(g) or (n).
- 22. Plaintiff is not prohibited from receipt of the firearm as he is not presently subject to a state firearm disability.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays that this Court will enter judgment as follows:

- A. Grant an order directing the NICS division to approve NTN 101T8F47N and to update their records to ensure Plaintiff is not improperly denied in the future,
- B. Declare that Plaintiff is not federally prohibited from possessing firearms,
- C. Declare that Plaintiff is not prohibited under state law from possessing firearms,
- D. Award Plaintiff his reasonable attorney fees and the costs of this action pursuant 18
   U.S.C. § 925A, and
- E. Grant such other and further relief as this Court deems to be just and proper.

March 12, 2021 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ F. Hill Allen

F. Hill Allen

N.C. State Bar No. 18884 Post Office Box 1151

150 Fayetteville Street, Suite 1800

Raleigh, N.C. 27602-1151 Telephone: (919) 821-4711

Fax: (919) 829-1583

E-mail: hallen@tharringtonsmith.com

## /s/ Derek A. DeBrosse

Derek A. DeBrosse, Esq. (OH 0084183) *Trial Attorney*Michael Truman (OH 0092506)
CHESHIRE DEBROSSE, P.C.
503 South Front Street, Suite 240B
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Tele: (888) 399-7863

Fax: (888) 271-6215

<u>Derek@MunitionsGroup.com</u>

<u>Michael@MunitionsGroup.com</u>

By Notice of Special Appearance